

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

*Sub A*

1. A fireplace comprising:  
(a) a firebox;  
(b) a front wall fastened to the firebox wherein the firebox and front wall define a combustion chamber; and  
(c) a shelf pivotally mounted to the front wall about a horizontal axis.

*Sub B*

2. The fireplace according to claim 1 wherein the shelf is configured to pivot between a closed position, wherein the shelf is positioned adjacent to the front wall in a substantially parallel plane and an open position, wherein the shelf is positioned substantially perpendicular to the front wall.

3. The fireplace according to claim 2 wherein the combustion chamber remains enclosed by the front wall and firebox when the shelf is in an open position.

4. The fireplace according to claim 1 further comprising doors pivotally mounted to the front wall about a vertical axis.

5. The fireplace according to claim 1 further comprising doors pivotally mounted to the firebox about a vertical axis.

6. The fireplace according to claim 1 wherein the front wall is fastened to the firebox to form a substantially airtight seal.

*Add B'*